



Promoting British Values at Brewster Avenue Infant and Nursery School

The Department for Education state that there is a need “to create and enforce a clear and rigorous expectation on all schools to promote the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs”

Brewster Avenue Infant School is committed to serving its community and surrounding areas. It recognises the multi-cultural, multi faith and ever-changing nature of the United Kingdom, and therefore those it serves. The school, as a ‘Community School’, accepts admissions from all those entitled to an education under British law, including pupils of all faiths or none. It follows the policies outlined by its governing body regarding equal opportunities, which guarantee that there will be no discrimination against any individual or group, regardless of faith, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, political or financial status, or similar.

The government set out its definition of British values in the 2011 Prevent Strategy and these values were reiterated by the Prime Minister in 2014. At Brewster Avenue Infant and Nursery School these values are reinforced regularly and in the following ways.

These values are taught explicitly through Personal, Social, Health and Emotional (PSHE), and Religious Education (RE). We also teach British Values through planning and delivering a broad and balanced curriculum. We have achieved the following external accreditation which demonstrates evidence of our commitment to British Values:
- Ofsted grade of ‘Outstanding’ behaviour December 2013

The school takes opportunities to actively promote British Values through our assemblies and whole school systems and structures such as electing and running a successful ECO School Council. We also actively promote the British Values through ensuring our curriculum planning and delivery includes real opportunities for exploring these values. Actively promoting British Values also means challenging pupils, staff or parents expressing opinions contrary to fundamental British Values, including ‘extremist’ views.

At Brewster Avenue Infant School we uphold and teach pupils about the British Values which are defined as:

- Democracy
- Rule of Law
- Individual Liberty
- Mutual Respect
- Tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs

Democracy

Democracy is an important value at our school. Pupils have the opportunity to have their voices heard through our ECO School Council and through our Infant Leadership Team. The elections of members of the ECO School Council are based on pupil votes. Individuals apply for the role of Infant Leadership Team by stating how they would fulfil this role in school against a ‘job description’.

The Rule of Law

The importance of laws and rules, whether they are those that govern the class, the school or the country, are consistently reinforced throughout regular school days. Individual classes display their class rules that have been devised as a group.



Pupils are taught the value and reasons behind laws/rules, that they govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when laws/rules are broken. Visits from authorities such as the police and fire service are regular parts of our calendar and help reinforce this message.

In Physical Education we promote of the concept of 'fair play', following and developing rules, inclusion, celebrating and rewarding success, being magnanimous in defeat and participation in activities that promote kinship and affiliation with others.

Individual Liberty

Within school, pupils are actively encouraged to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. As a school we educate and provide boundaries for our pupils to make choices safely, through the provision of a safe environment, a planned curriculum and an empowering education. Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and are advised how to exercise these safely, for example through our e-safety teaching and PSHE lessons.

Pupils are given the freedom to make choices, e.g. signing up for extra-curricular clubs, choose the level of challenge in some lessons. Children have responsibility over their independent learning activities and our curriculum organisation encourages and expects pupils to make good learning choices.

Subject studies develop the skill base required to access/share information, make/express decisions and apply themselves to society and the world. These include the understanding and use of money, effective writing and reading skills, collaborative work, to discuss and research ideas and concepts, and gain a broad and balanced understanding of the society in which they live. Aspects of study beyond core skills include historical and geographical context of the United Kingdom, incorporating local and national, as well as international comparisons.

Mutual Respect

Respect is one of the core values of our school. This can be seen and felt in our pervading ethos in school. The pupils know and understand that it is expected and imperative that respect is shown to everyone, whatever differences we may have and to everything, however big or small. The core value of respect at Brewster Avenue Infant School underpins our work every day both in and out of the classroom. Children and adults alike, including visitors, are challenged if they are disrespectful in any way.

Tolerance of Those with Different Faiths and Beliefs

This is achieved through enhancing pupils' understanding of their place in a culturally diverse society and by giving them opportunities to experience such diversity in our local community.

Assemblies and discussions involving prejudices and prejudiced-based bullying have been followed and supported by learning in RE and PSHE. We have a whole school 'Anti-Bullying Week' and have anti-bullying ambassadors.

Through our Enrichment activities we discover differences and similarities between us and our European neighbours. Likewise we use opportunities such as the Olympics and World Cup to study and learn about life and culture in countries who participate. We employ staff who have English as an Additional Language and bring a varied cultural experience to Brewster Avenue Infant School.



We have whole school daily acts of collective worship/assembly. These include the sharing of stories, images, events, music and expectations that, with clarity and precision, promote the values expressed. Such proceedings vary in the methodology of delivery in order to secure interest and understanding and are designed to impact on children regardless of knowledge, experience or cognitive maturity. As a 'community school', 'collective worship' is nondenominational and recognises that those attending may have a wide range of faiths, or none. It is however, in line with regulation and is "wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character".

In the teaching of RE children are gaining a greater understanding of religious diversity and practices, which covers key religions represented in the UK. Planning for the subject is directed by the 'Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE) – Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education'.